General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 August 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 124

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/608/Add.4)*]

60/281. Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,[1] as well as the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its reports;[2]

3. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of section I of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Approves* the budgets of 59,647,600 United States dollars gross (54,744,100 dollars net) for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2006, 18,971,400 dollars gross (17,020,000 dollars net) for the International Independent Investigation Commission for the period from 16 June to 31 December 2006 and 5,776,200 dollars gross (5,253,500 dollars net) for the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste for the period from 21 June to 31 August 2006;

5. *Takes note* of the unencumbered balances in the amounts already appropriated for the three missions totalling 6,043,400 dollars;

6. *Decides* to approve a charge of 51,908,500 dollars, corresponding to the unassigned balance against the provision for special political missions, appropriated under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

[1] A/60/585/Add.3 and 4.

[2] A/60/7/Add.39 and 41. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

7. *Also decides* to appropriate, under the procedure provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of 19,065,700 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 and an amount of 7,377,600 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, the latter to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

92nd plenary meeting
30 June 2006

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 August 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 124

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/608/Add.6)*]

60/282. Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001, 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolution 60/256 of 8 May 2006 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the second[1] and third[2] annual progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan, the reports of the Secretary-General on viable options for ensuring sufficient parking space at United Nations Headquarters,[3] on plans for three additional conference rooms and viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms,[4] on cooperation with the City and State of New York related to the capital master plan,[5] on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan,[6] on a business analysis of the possibility of constructing a new permanent building on the North Lawn,[7] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the biennium ended 31 December 2003,[8] the report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2004,[9] the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the capital master plan for the period from August 2003 through July 2004[10] and the period from August 2004 through July 2005[11] and the related written reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and

[1] A/59/441 and Add.1 and 2.
[2] A/60/550 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.
[3] A/58/712.
[4] A/58/556.
[5] A/58/779.
[6] A/58/729.
[7] A/60/874.
[8] A/59/161.
[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/60/5), vol. V.
[10] See A/59/420.
[11] A/60/288.

Budgetary Questions,[12] as well as the oral report of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[13]

1. *Reiterates its serious concern* about the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the current conditions of the United Nations Headquarters Building, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, visitors, tourists and delegations, including high-level delegations;

2. *Takes note* of the second[1] and third[2] annual progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan, the reports of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the City and State of New York related to the capital master plan,[3] on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan[4] and on the business analysis of the possibility of constructing a new permanent building on the North Lawn;[5]

3. *Decides* to revert, at the main part of its sixty-first session, to the consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on viable options for ensuring sufficient parking space at United Nations Headquarters[3] and on plans for three additional conference rooms and viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms,[4] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the biennium ended 31 December 2003,[8] the report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2004[9] and the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the capital master plan for the period from August 2003 through July 2004[10] and the period from August 2004 through July 2005;[11]

4. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

5. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters in New York;

6. *Recalls* the current practices of host Governments with regard to support for United Nations headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that no action is taken that would preclude any decision that the General Assembly might take on the construction of a new permanent building on the North Lawn at some future date;

8. *Approves*, effective 1 July 2006, the recommended strategy for the implementation of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), contained in the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[2] including the phasing, swing space and cost, and decides to review the updated projected costs at the main part of its sixty-first session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, through the Committee on Conferences, on the possible adjustment of meeting schedules, including a change in venue of meetings for the United Nations intergovernmental organs that normally meet at Headquarters for the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

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[12] A/59/556, and A/60/7/Add.38 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 7A*).

[13] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Fifth Committee*, 53rd meeting (A/C.5/59/SR.53), and corrigendum.

10. *Stresses* the need for a long-term strategy for office accommodation at Headquarters;

11. *Requests* that a comprehensive study on the feasibility of the proposed construction of a building on the North Lawn, including a number of other factors that have not been included in the business analysis contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[7] on security, architectural, and host city and community issues, be included in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, considering the need to continue to explore ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to take the provisions of its resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999, 55/247 of 12 April 2001 and 59/288 of 13 April 2005 on procurement reform fully into consideration in the implementation of the capital master plan;

13. *Notes* that the Office of the Capital Master Plan will provide resources to the Office of Internal Oversight Services in order to ensure an appropriate construction audit for the capital master plan, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the findings thereon in the context of the relevant reports, including the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services throughout the phases of the project;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that procurement processes related to the capital master plan are conducted in a transparent manner and in full compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

15. *Welcomes* the establishment of the capital master plan website;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General ensure that financial disclosure statements are filed by staff involved with the capital master plan in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

17. *Recognizes* that the cash payment option, based on a one-time assessment or multi-year special assessments, would be the simplest and the most cost-effective approach for meeting the cost of the capital master plan;

18. *Decides* to revert, at the main part of its sixty-first session, to the issue of the funding plan for the capital master plan, including the credit facilities or instruments referred to in paragraph 35 of the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan[14] as well as the feasibility of a one-time upfront payment option, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to propose, inter alia, to the General Assembly, also at the main part of its sixty-first session, a mechanism that would ensure that Member States that pay their assessed contributions for the capital master plan in full and on time will not bear any financial liabilities and/or other obligations derived from the possible utilization of those credit facilities or instruments;

19. *Also decides* to convert the existing commitment authority of 77 million United States dollars into an appropriation, with assessment on Member States in 2006 on the basis of the regular budget scale of assessments in effect for the year;

[14] A/60/550 and Corr.1 and 2.

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution, in his fourth annual progress report on the implementation of the capital master plan.

92nd plenary meeting
30 June 2006

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 August 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda items 46, 118, 120, 122, 124, 128, 129 and 136

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/60/831/Add.1)]

60/283. Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 60/260 of 8 May 2006,

Reaffirming the role of the General Assembly and its relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies, within their respective mandates, in planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation,

Stressing the need for Member States to participate in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report"[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Renews its appeal* to Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations by, inter alia, meeting their financial obligations on time, in full and without conditions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

Oversight and accountability

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full operationalization of the Ethics Office, including through the expeditious filling of vacancies;

[1] A/60/846 and Add.1-4.
[2] A/60/870.

2. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening oversight in the Organization, and stresses the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

3. *Looks forward* to considering the results of the independent external evaluation of the audit and oversight system of the United Nations, as well as other relevant reports in this regard, and to taking action on proposals contained therein on, inter alia, ensuring the full operational independence of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and strengthening the evaluation capacity of the Office at the programme and subprogramme levels, as well as any budget requirements;

4. *Recalls* section XIII, paragraph 4, of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, whereby it established the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, and looks forward to considering and taking action on its proposed terms of reference with a view to operationalizing it;

II

Information and communication technology

1. *Decides* to establish the post of Chief Information Technology Officer at the level of Assistant Secretary-General in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to rejustify the level and resource requirements for the post of Chief Information Technology Officer in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 to be considered at its sixty-second session, taking fully into account the existing staffing structure and resources dedicated to information and communication technology functions in the Organization;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly, at its resumed sixty-first session, detailed information on the structure and staffing requirements of the envisaged information and communication technology structure, as well as the lines of responsibility, the functions of the proposed structure and its relationship with other information and communication technology units in the Secretariat, offices away from Headquarters, regional commissions, peacekeeping operations, special political missions and other field offices;

4. *Decides* to replace the Integrated Management Information System with a next-generation enterprise resource planning system or other comparable system;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its resumed sixty-first session, the comprehensive report referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 of his report,[3] and to respond to relevant General Assembly resolutions, including on the following matters:

(*a*) Substantive improvements to the information and communication technology systems that may be required, including the systems at offices away from Headquarters, the regional commissions and peacekeeping operations;

[3] A/60/846/Add.1.

(*b*) A detailed implementation plan, including on the user needs, scope, timetable, strategy and detailed resource requirements and information technology needs arising from the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

(*c*) The expected contribution of the information and communication technology system to enhancing the effective and transparent use of the resources of the Organization;

(*d*) Any revisions to the existing information and communication technology strategy that may be required, bearing in mind requests previously made by the General Assembly in its consideration of the 2002 information and communication technology strategy, including its resolutions 56/239 of 24 December 2001 and 57/304 of 15 April 2003;

(*e*) Projected resource requirements over the life cycle of the project;

(*f*) A detailed explanation and concrete examples of how it is envisaged that the proposals will enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Organization and address current deficiencies;

(*g*) A clear definition of the terminologies and rationale for the proposals;

(*h*) An assessment of previous investments in information and communication technology, as well as lessons learned and expected time frames for introducing the proposed system and arrangements for the continuation of the current system during the transitional period;

6. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies of United Nations system organizations towards the use of open-source software in the secretariats[4] at its resumed sixty-first session;

III

Limited budgetary discretion

1. *Recalls* its resolution 59/275 of 23 December 2004, in which it set the priorities for the Organization for the biennium 2006–2007;

2. *Reaffirms* the role and prerogative of Member States in setting the priorities of the Organization, as reflected in legislative decisions;

3. *Reaffirms* its role in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of human and financial resources and policies with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

4. *Emphasizes again* that the resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full, efficient and effective implementation;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005, whereby it recognized the need for limited discretion in budgetary implementation for the Secretary-General, within defined parameters to be agreed by the General Assembly along with clear accountability mechanisms to the Assembly for its use;

[4] A/60/665.

6. *Decides* to authorize the Secretary-General, on an experimental basis, a limited discretion for budgetary implementation for the bienniums 2006–2007 and 2008–2009, to enter into commitments up to 20 million United States dollars in each biennium for positions and non-post requirements for the purpose of meeting the evolving needs of the Organization in attaining its mandated programmes and activities;

7. *Also decides* to authorize the Secretary-General to utilize the Working Capital Fund to finance the implementation of the authorization referred to in paragraph 6 above, which shall be offset by savings identified and attained, including through the efficient use and assignment of resources, during the course of each biennium within the authorized appropriation level, as reported in the performance reports;

8. *Decides* that the authorization referred to in paragraph 6 above shall be implemented in accordance with the following principles:

(*a*) The experiment shall not be utilized for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses that are authorized in respect of the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) The experiment shall not imply any changes in the human resources management policies of the Organization;

(*c*) The proposed programme budget shall remain the principal instrument in which the Secretary-General sets out the resources and staffing requirements of the Organization, including the requirements for all reform proposals as agreed by Member States;

(*d*) The experiment shall in no way prevent the Secretary-General from requesting additional posts during the course of the experiment;

(*e*) The experiment shall not be implemented in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions calling for the implementation of decisions "within existing resources";

(*f*) The experiment shall not imply any changes to the provisions guiding the use of the contingency fund;

(*g*) The utilization of authorization shall be exercised with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions when the total amount utilized exceeds 6 million dollars per biennium;

(*h*) The experiment shall not alter the priorities of the Organization as agreed by the General Assembly;

(*i*) The utilization of the funds provided for under the experiment shall be subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, in the context of the performance reports, on the utilization of all commitments made within the context of the experiment, together with the circumstances relating thereto, as well as the impact on programme delivery and the ability to meet the evolving needs of the Organization;

10. *Decides* to review the experiment at its sixty-fourth session with a view to taking a final decision on its continuation, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the experiment for its consideration, including the following aspects:

(*a*) The utilization of the experiment during the course of the two bienniums;

(*b*) Implications, if any, for the human resources management policies and the Financial Regulations and Rules;

(*c*) The impact on programme delivery, as well as on the priorities of the Organization as set by Member States;

(*d*) The criteria used by the Secretary-General to define the evolving needs of the Organization;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 58/270 of 23 December 2003 and paragraph 7 of its resolution 60/246, decides that the experiment will not be extended beyond the current biennium, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the results of the experiment as well as lessons learned that can be applied to the experiment referred to in paragraph 6 above;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expeditiously implement paragraph 8 of its resolution 60/246 and to report thereon in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007;

13. *Recalls its request* to the Secretary-General to specifically define accountability as well as clear accountability mechanisms, including to the General Assembly, and to propose clear parameters for their application and the instruments for their rigorous enforcement, without exception, at all levels;

14. *Recognizes* that it will consider the related report of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 13 above at its sixty-first session with a view to taking decisions to strengthen accountability in the Organization;

IV

Financial management practices

International Public Sector Accounting Standards

1. *Decides* to approve the adoption by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

2. *Approves* the resources requested to permit the Secretary-General to begin implementation of the Standards, bearing in mind paragraph 42 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

Working Capital Fund

3. *Recalls* its resolution 60/250 of 23 December 2005;

4. *Resolves* that the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006-2007 shall be increased to 150 million dollars effective from 1 January 2007;

5. *Also resolves* that Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale of assessments to be adopted by the General Assembly for contributions to the regular budget for the year 2007;

6. *Further resolves* that there shall be set off against these advances:

(*a*) The surplus balance of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006-2007 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/250;

V

Improving reporting mechanisms: public access to United Nations documentation

Comprehensive annual report

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the information necessary to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

2. *Reaffirms* that all reports pertaining to administrative and budgetary matters are subject to the consideration of the Fifth Committee as the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for those matters;

3. *Takes note* of the intention of the Secretary-General to prepare a single comprehensive annual report containing both financial and programme information, with the aim of enhancing the transparency of the Organization and the accountability of the Secretariat to Member States;

4. *Emphasizes* that the report would be developed in the context of paragraphs 68 and 69 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] bearing in mind paragraph 2 above;

5. *Also emphasizes* that the report would be complementary in nature and would not replace the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization required under Article 98 of the Charter of the United Nations, nor reports that are subject to the consideration of the Fifth Committee;

Public access

6. *Notes* the proposal of the Secretary-General on the policy for access to United Nations documentation by Member States and the public and also the observations of the Advisory Committee thereon, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, for consideration and action, a comprehensive report containing detailed parameters of the above proposal, including information on resource requirements, financing mechanisms and the possibility of a fee structure, and also addressing the implementation of the existing mandates governing the issue of facilitating the access of Member States and the public to United Nations documentation and information materials, as contained in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

VI

Procurement

Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments of up to 706,600 dollars to strengthen the United Nations procurement system, including by enhancing internal controls and developing business seminar programmes for vendors in developing countries, pending consideration of and action on the report of the Secretary-General on procurement reform[5] by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

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[5] A/60/846/Add.5.

VII

Future consideration of management reform

1. *Decides* to defer consideration of the following proposals contained in the addendum on financial management practices[6] to the above-mentioned detailed report of the Secretary-General as follows:

(*a*) Consolidation of peacekeeping accounts and increases in the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund and commitment authority for peacekeeping operations (paragraphs 112 (*b*) to (*l*)) — until the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

(*b*) Establishment of a reserve fund (paragraphs 112 (*p*) and (*q*)) — within the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

2. *Looks forward* to considering at its sixty-first session proposals on:

(*a*) Governance, oversight and accountability;

(*b*) Human resources management;

(*c*) Procurement;

(*d*) Administration of justice;

3. *Reaffirms* its intention to continue the consideration of measures to fulfil the commitments made by Heads of State and Government in the 2005 World Summit Outcome[7] to strengthen the United Nations by ensuring the efficient and effective functioning of the Organization and a culture of accountability, transparency and integrity in the Secretariat;

4. *Pledges* to provide the United Nations with adequate resources, on a timely basis, to enable the Organization to implement its mandates and achieve its objectives, having regard to the priorities agreed by the General Assembly and the need to respect budget discipline;

VIII

Appropriation

1. *Approves* an additional appropriation of 4,433,100 dollars in the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007, broken down as follows:

Section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	145 600
28A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	1 860 000
28B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	1 428 900
28D.	Office of Central Support Services	574 600
30.	Jointly financed administrative activities	424 000
	Total	**4 433 100**

[6] A/60/846/Add.3.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

2. *Also approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 127,300 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

93rd plenary meeting
7 July 2006

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 12

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.61)*]

60/284. Prevention of armed conflict

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003,

Bearing in mind its responsibilities, functions and powers under the Charter of the United Nations, in particular with respect to matters related to the prevention of armed conflict,

Taking note of the statements made during the consideration of the agenda item entitled "Prevention of armed conflict" at its sixtieth session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of armed conflict;[1]

2. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations contained therein at its sixty-first session.

98th plenary meeting
7 September 2006

[1] A/60/891.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 40

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.60/Rev.2)]

60/285. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

The General Assembly,

Seriously concerned by the fires in the affected territories, which have inflicted widespread environmental damage,

1. *Stresses* the necessity to urgently conduct an environmental operation to suppress the fires in the affected territories and to overcome their detrimental consequences;

2. *Welcomes* the readiness of the parties to cooperate to that end, and considers such an operation to be an important confidence-building measure;

3. *Takes note* of the intention of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to organize a mission to the region to assess the short- and long-term impact of the fires on the environment as a step in preparation for the environmental operation;

4. *Calls upon*, in this regard, the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to provide all necessary assistance and expertise, including, inter alia, the assessment of and counteraction to the short- and long-term impact of the environmental degradation of the region, as well as in its rehabilitation;

5. *Requests* the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to provide a report on this matter to States members of the General Assembly by 30 April 2007.

98th plenary meeting
7 September 2006

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 September 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/999)*]

60/286. Revitalization of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Reaffirming also the authority of the General Assembly and the strengthening of its role on global matters of concern to the international community, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming its central role in the reform process,

Recognizing that the General Assembly is the universal and representative forum comprising all Members of the United Nations,

Stressing the need fully to respect and maintain the balance between the principal organs of the United Nations within their respective purviews and mandates in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming that the plenary meetings of the General Assembly should constitute a forum for high-level policy statements, as well as for the consideration, inter alia, of agenda items of special importance or urgency,

Underlining the importance of providing adequate resources for the implementation of mandated programmes and activities,

Reaffirming its authority in the consideration of all budgetary issues, as stipulated in the Charter,

Reaffirming also its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work, in particular resolutions 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004 and 59/313 of 12 September 2005,

Recalling its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly established by Assembly resolution 59/313,[1]

Decides to adopt the text contained in the annex to the present resolution.

99th plenary meeting
8 September 2006

Annex

The General Assembly,

Cluster I. Role and authority of the General Assembly

In the context of further strengthening the role and authority of the General Assembly as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Reaffirms the role and the authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, as stipulated in Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

2. Urges the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council to meet periodically to ensure increased cooperation and coordination of their work programmes in accordance with their respective responsibilities under the Charter; the President of the Assembly shall inform Member States about the outcome of those meetings on a regular basis;

3. Encourages the holding of thematic interactive debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community in the General Assembly, and invites the President of the Assembly to propose themes for such interactive debates, in consultation with Member States;

4. Invites the Security Council to further its initiatives to improve the quality of its annual report to the General Assembly, mandated by Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, in order to provide the Assembly with a substantive and analytical report;

5. In carrying out the assessment of the debate on the annual report of the Security Council called for in paragraph 12 of the annex to resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997, the President shall inform the General Assembly of his decision regarding the need for further consideration of the report of the Council, including in respect of the convening of informal consultations, on the need for, and content of, any action by the Assembly based on the debate, as well as on any matters to be brought to the attention of the Council;

6. Invites the Security Council to update the General Assembly on a regular basis on the steps it has taken or is contemplating with respect to improving its reporting to the Assembly;

[1] A/60/999.

7. Also invites the Security Council to submit periodically, in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration on issues of current international concern;

8. Invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to prepare its report to the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, striving to make it more concise and action-oriented by highlighting the critical areas requiring action by the Assembly and, as appropriate, by making specific recommendations for consideration by the Member States;

9. Requests the President of the General Assembly, at the end of his/her tenure, to provide an informal, short report on best practices and lessons learned to his/her successor;

10. Takes note of paragraph 3 (*b*) of its resolution 59/313 of 12 September 2005, and also takes note of paragraph 9 of its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005, by which two additional positions at management and senior levels were made available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly, within the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007, as part of the effort to strengthen the Office of the President;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements for the provision of transitional office accommodation and other support to the President-elect of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution 58/126 of 19 December 2003;

12. Encourages enhanced interaction, as and where appropriate, with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the General Assembly and in conformity with the relevant rules of procedure;

13. Also encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

14. Requests the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in cooperation with countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the work of the General Assembly;

15. Urges the Secretariat to continue its endeavours to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and, to that end, requests the rearrangement of items in the *Journal of the United Nations* so that listings of plenary meetings and other major events of the General Assembly may appear alongside those of the meetings of the Security Council;

16. Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson;

Cluster II. Selection of the Secretary-General

17. Recalls Article 97 of the Charter, as well as the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946 and 51/241, as relevant to the role of

the Assembly in appointing the Secretary-General, upon the recommendation of the Security Council;

18. Emphasizes, bearing in mind the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be inclusive of all Member States and made more transparent and that, in the course of the identification and appointment of the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General, due regard should be given to regional rotation and gender equality, and invites the Security Council to regularly update the General Assembly on the steps it has taken in this regard;

19. Encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to consult with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State and, upon informing all Member States of the results, to forward those results to the Security Council;

20. Also encourages formal presentation of candidatures for the position of Secretary-General in a manner that allows sufficient time for interaction with Member States, and requests candidates to present their views to all States members of the General Assembly;

21. Recalls paragraph 61 of its resolution 51/241, in which it is stated that, in order to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, the Secretary-General should be appointed as early as possible, preferably no later than one month before the date on which the term of the incumbent expires;

22. Emphasizes the importance of candidates for the post of Secretary-General possessing and displaying, inter alia, commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, extensive leadership, and administrative and diplomatic experience;

Cluster III. Working methods

23. Reaffirms the sovereign right of Member States to submit proposals in the context of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages Member States to submit draft resolutions in a more concise, focused and action-oriented form;

24. Requests the Secretary-General to issue the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a consolidated version in all official languages, in print and online, and requests the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to make precedents and past practice available in the public domain with respect to rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization;

25. Requests the Main Committees to continue their efforts to further rationalize their agendas and to improve their working methods, and invites the Bureaux of the Main Committees to enhance their cooperation, in conformity with the rules of procedure;

26. Decides, in that respect, to give due consideration to those recommendations of the Main Committees regarding the improvement of their working methods and the allocation of agenda items which require the approval of the General Assembly for their implementation;

27. Reiterates its call for the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

28. Requests an update on its recommendation, in paragraph 15 of its resolution 59/313, regarding consideration of the use of optical scanners as a means of expediting the counting of votes cast through secret ballots during elections, taking due account of the security requirements in this regard and the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of such means, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the modalities thereof to the General Assembly;

29. Requests the Secretary-General to implement further the measures set out in paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002 on the consolidation of reports and in paragraph 6 of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on documentation;

30. Recalls paragraph 19 of its resolution 59/313, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a status report with a factual chart to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of all resolutions regarding the revitalization of its work, including resolutions 58/126, 58/316 and 59/313, and the present resolution;

31. Decides to invite the President of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly to convene consultations among Member States to decide on the establishment of an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the Assembly, open to all Member States, to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on relevant Assembly resolutions and reviewing the agenda and working methods of the Assembly, and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session.

General Assembly

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Agenda items 46 and 120

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.63 and Add.1)*]

60/287. The Peacebuilding Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling also its resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) of 20 December 2005 on the operationalization of the Peacebuilding Commission, in particular paragraphs 24 and 25 thereof,

1. *Takes note* of the arrangements for establishing the Peacebuilding Fund as contained in the report of the Secretary-General[2] and the terms of reference for the Fund contained in the annex thereto;

2. *Affirms* its role to provide overall policy guidance on the use of the Fund to maximize its impact and improve its functioning;

3. *Welcomes* the contributions and financial pledges already made to the Fund, and emphasizes the necessity of sustained contributions in order to enhance the capacity of the Fund to immediately release the resources needed to launch post-conflict peacebuilding activities;

4. *Urges* all Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the Fund;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on the operation and activities of the Fund;

6. *Decides* to include in the draft agenda of its sixty-first session an item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund".

99th plenary meeting
8 September 2006

[1] See resolution 60/1.
[2] A/60/984.